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February 8, 2002

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To: Community Based Alternatives (CBA) and Consolidated Waiver Program (CWP) Assisted Living/Residential Care (AL/RC) Providers

Subject: Long Term Care (LTC)
Information Letter No. 02-04
AL/RC Rate Changes

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) approved rate changes for Community Based Alternatives (CBA) and Consolidated Waiver Program (CWP) Assisted Living/Residential Care (AL/RC) providers effective March 1, 2002. The new rates have been adjusted to offset the annual Cost of Living Increases provided to Social Security Income (SSI) recipients effective January 1, 2002. The new AL/RC rates are included on the attached Reimbursement Rate chart pages which should be substituted for corresponding pages in the Reimbursement Rate section of your Provider Manual until a manual revision is distributed.

Each year the Texas Department of Human Services (DHS) is notified of any increases in SSI Federal Benefit Rate (FBR) amount. Effective January 1, 2002, the SSI monthly amount for a single individual increased from \$530 to \$545, an increase of \$0.49 per day. An increase in the SSI amount results in an increase to the client's room-and-board payment amount to the AL/RC provider. As a result, the DHS reimbursement rate must be adjusted by the amount of the increase in the SSI that is paid to the contracted provider by the client.

Any future changes in the SSI rate, will result in reimbursement rate adjustments to offset the SSI increase. DHS will continue to notify providers of any changes in the reimbursement rates.

All claims for services delivered on or after March 1, 2002, will be processed using the new payment rates. Claims submitted by the provider for any services delivered on or after March 1, 2002, should be prepared using the new rates.

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Please contact Alisa Jacquet, at 512-438-4952, if you have any questions about the reimbursement rates. Please contact your contract manager if you have any questions about this information letter.

An electronic version of this letter, as well as past Community Care Information Letters can be accessed at
<http://www.dhs.state.tx.us/programs/communitycare/infoletters/index.html>.

Sincerely,

Signature on file

Becky Beechinor
Assistant Deputy Commissioner
Long Term Care Services

BB:ck

Attachments

The rate for CWP-AFC program services as of 10/1/01 are:

Service	Rate Per	Amount
Adult Foster Care Level 1	day	\$18.62
Adult Foster Care Level 2	day	\$32.11
Adult Foster Care Level 3	day	\$65.21
Adult Foster Care Respite		
Adult Foster Care Level 1	day	\$32.29
Adult Foster Care Level 2	day	\$45.79
Adult Foster Care Level 3	day	\$78.88

The rates for CWP-AL/RC program services as of 3/1/02 are:

Service	Rate Per	Amount
Assisted Living/Single Occupancy - Apartment	day	\$46.16
Assisted Living/Double Occupancy - Apartment	day	\$39.61
Residential Care/Non-Apartment	day	\$24.05
Assisted Living/Residential Care Respite		
Assisted Living/Single Occupancy - Apartment	day	\$61.29
Assisted Living/Double Occupancy - Apartment	day	\$54.74
Residential Care/Non-Apartment	day	\$39.04

The rate for CWP-24 Hour Residential Habilitation program services as of 10/1/01 are:

Service	Rate Per	Amount
24-Hour Residential Habilitation - Intermittent	day	\$80.52
24-Hour Residential Habilitation - Limited	day	\$90.55
24-Hour Residential Habilitation - Extensive	day	\$105.14
24-Hour Residential Habilitation - Pervasive	day	\$123.73